

SERC Meeting
November 26, 2001
10:00 a.m.

Steve Kappa began the meeting at 10:00 a.m., a quorum was present, for those in attendance see attached roster. The minutes of October 21, 2001 were reviewed. Mr. Kappa asked for corrections, deletions or additions. Richard Jarvis made a motion to accept the minutes, Dan McKinney seconded. Motion passed.

Old Business -Mr. Kappa asked Rick Snodgrass to report on the DOJ grant project. Mr. Snodgrass said he has two individuals helping with the Regional meetings and canvassing counties for their needs. Neal Sharp and Danny Gray have been invaluable in completing the assessments and enabling the state to turn in their assessment to DOJ by the deadline. Mr. Kappa asked if the deadline will be met, Mr. Snodgrass said it will definitely be met by December 15. Mr. Snodgrass said regions have been responding extensively to questions regarding their needs and capabilities. At this point the grant amount is approximately 1.85 million with requests from regions and state agencies over 20 million. Once the assessments are complete, regions will be evaluated, a master list compiled for each region and a standardized equipment list will be developed. Each region will have the same minimum equipment and upgrading can then begin.

Mr. Snodgrass gave a report on the recent SERC Conference. The Conference was well attended considering the number of counties/agencies that were contending with possible Anthrax incidents. Most of the feedback has been positive, food, entertainment and of course the classes seems to have been well received. Mr. Snodgrass said plans are already underway for the 2002 conference, several sites have been contacted from Parkersburg to Beckley to Charleston to obtain pricing, times and availability. As soon as the information is available a recommendation will be made to the SERC for their determination.

HMEP Grants - 11 Grants have been completed, McDowell County will not be utilizing their funds. There was discussion on reallocating any remaining funds if they are not used by December 1, 2001. 8 of the 2002 grants have requested their initial funds and have begun their projects.

SERC Grants - Nothing to report

Plan Reviews -Paul Howard requested the SERC table plans now pending. Mr. Howard told the SERC the standard previously used for reviews was not up to standard according to current requirements. Mr. Howard told the SERC he will revise the standard to the current regulations, he will then request the board review the revised standard and determine how to proceed. Mr. Kappa asked Mr.

Howard to make recommendations enabling the LEPCs and counties to come into compliance with current requirements. Roy McCallister made a motion to table Tucker and Cabell/Wayne County LEPC plans temporarily, Richard Jarvis seconded. Motion passed. Mr. Kappa asked Mr. Howard which counties did not have a plan: Fayette, Grant, Hampshire, Lincoln, Monroe, Morgan, Pendleton, Pocohontas and Summers. There was some discussion on why these 9 counties do not have plans and how to encourage them to produce one.

LEPC Membership Approvals -Nothing to report

By-Laws -Nothing to report

Training Subcommittee -Nothing to report

Other New Business - Mr. Kappa gave a synopsis of the recent National Governor association meeting in Washington DC. During the September 11th and later time frame, President Bush, Office of Homeland Security and Department of Justice requested state agencies to respond to possible incidents. This meant that many states incurred unfunded overtime and other costs and it appears now there will not be any reimbursement. The NGA surveyed states and indicated a possibility of reimbursement if they could gather the necessary information quickly enough. Also the Office of Homeland Security and FEMA are assessing states needs and recent expenditures. Within the next month it may be possible to recoup funds already expended by several state agencies such as State Police, DNR, Fire Marshall, Highways, DEP as well as the possibility of obtaining further funding for future projects.

There was some discussion on a location for the next meeting due to the Legislative Session beginning in January, parking is extremely difficult. Roy McCallister indicated he will check with the State Police Academy to determine if that site is available.

Jim Riggs moved to adjourn, Roy McCallister seconded, meeting ended at 12:00. Next scheduled meeting will be February 4, 2002 in Charleston, WV.